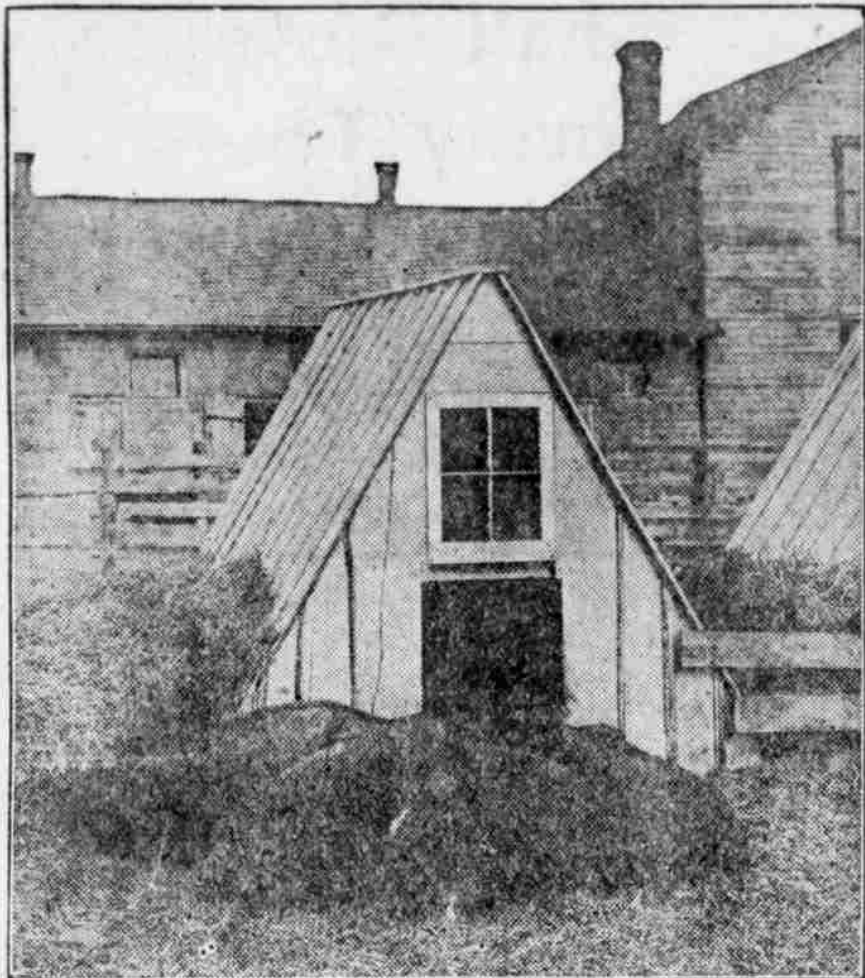


FLESH IS MAIN POINT IN RAISING HOGS



Hogs Exposed to the Hot Sunshine Day in and Day Out During the Summer Will Lose Much of the Gains They Make.

(By L. E. CHAPIN.)

It is true that warm water is just as wet as cool water, but it is not so palatable, and the hogs will thrive better if they have a cool drink at least twice a day. Water should always be within reach.

Hogs exposed to the hot sunshine, day in and day out during the summer will lose much of the gains they make, even though the clover fields be of the finest.

The main and only point in raising hogs is to produce flesh that will bring the most money, and every little thing that will work toward this end should be put into operation.

No farmer that continually stuffs his breeding sows with corn can hope to secure the best pigs. Breeding stock requires more clover, bran, alfalfa than corn.

The short-nosed hog is always to be desired against the long, slender-faced type.

The sow should be long-bodied and the boar short.

It has always been a disputed question as to whether a hog gains any-

thing by rooting. Even if he doesn't, he has plenty of time to spare, and rooting will certainly not hurt him to any decided extent.

When a pig's tail curls up in a crispy, tight sort of way, it is a sign he feels good, and is thriving. If it doesn't, he needs something to brace him up.

Some farmers cut off the tails of their pigs, because they claim it takes ten ears of corn to raise one tail; therefore, they amputate, in the interest of economy.

The man who breeds hogs with high ideals of perfection cannot succeed unless he keeps an active record of his breeding operations. He needs a blank book for the purpose, and must pay the most careful attention to entries.

An armful of green cornstalks will add relish to the hog's ration, but it should not be fed regularly until the corn in the ear has hardened beyond the possibility of frost.

Do you know anything around the farm that will run into money faster than hogs?

LARGE PROFIT MADE IN RAISING CAPONS

Most of Work Can Be Done in Winter When Time Is Plentiful With the Farmer.

(By MILLER PURVIS.)

No one is better situated to raise capons than the farmer. On the average farm the additional work required to raise from 100 to 200 capons would not be noticed, and the most of this work can be attended to in the winter when time is plentiful with the farmer.

There are many stories told about the size to which capons grow, while the truth is that the ordinary capon will grow to but one or two pounds more than the ordinary uncaponized cockerel would be in the same time, and to secure this additional weight, extra feeding is necessary.

In preparation for capon feeding it is wise to hatch about twice the number of chickens as capons desired, for fully half are likely to be pullets.

The pullets may be kept for egg-production or may be sold for spring chickens, thus securing enough money to pay for raising the whole flock up to the time the cockerels are old enough to caponize, which is about twelve weeks.

The operation of caponizing does not require much skill, although the beginner will probably kill two or three at the start, which will not be lost for they bleed to death in about the same time as if they had their throats cut and are equally as good for table purposes as if bled in the latter way.

A set of tools for caponizing costs from \$1.50 to \$2 and with each set are sent directions that any one can follow.

After the caponizing, the cockerels become docile and quiet; they lose ambition and their combs cease to grow; in fact they shrivel, and when fed they eat their fill and then sit quietly around until feeding time comes again.

Capon always retain that sweetness and juiciness of flesh that are characteristic of the spring chicken—the reason they bring such a high price.

They are fed much as other fowls are fed, only they get more. About all they eat goes to the formation of juicy palatable flesh.

A few years ago capons commanded hardly any attention in the West, and do not yet bring the prices they do in the Eastern cities.

Crimson Clover Hay.

Crimson clover hay must be cut early, otherwise the ripened hairs on stem and head may form hair balls in horses and mules' stomachs. Very few cases recover.

VALUABLE HINTS FOR THE SWINE BREEDER

Pigs Lose Thriftiness and Constitution When Confined in Small, Unclean Pen.

In breeding swine, we must consider the type of hog the market demands.

Never sacrifice a good body in order to shorten the snout or decrease the size of the ears.

Buy a boar of some reliable breeder who has been working for years to get the correct type of a pig, and who is prepared to furnish the type you desire.

With well-bred hogs your feed and care will produce the best results.

It is a mistaken idea that breeding animals, to do well, must be fed only enough to keep them alive.

Swine are natives of a tropical climate and should have warm and dry quarters.

Feed a pig all he can eat without squealing. This can be done only by watching him eat and knowing just how much he needs.

Make a "sleeping-bunk" for pigs of a 2 by 4 foot frame set around the corner of the pen floor in which straw bedding is put. Have it away from the feeding trough and dirt. Locate it in a cool, shady place. The pigs learn quickly if it is their bunk and will occupy it. Keep clean.

Is it any wonder that pigs lose their thriftiness and constitution and become weak in the back with crooked legs when they are confined in an 8 by 10 pen that is cleaned but once a year, and then when the owner has time. Stop and figure the losses that result from pigs that do not do well and are restless, when all they need to make them comfortable and contented, is the run of a nice, clean pasture, where they can leave their droppings to the benefit of the soil.

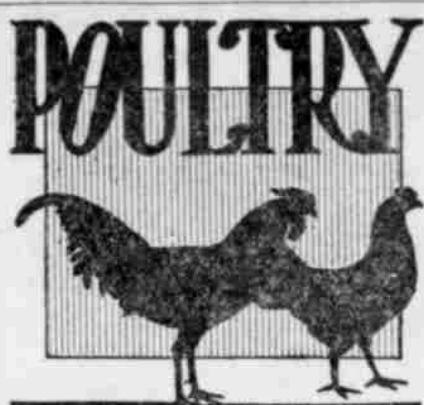
Giving Young Horse a Rest.

The three-year-old colts that have been worked during the rush season of the spring and early summer would appreciate being let out in the pasture now, where they can kick up their heels and do some more growing. The colt should not be worked too hard during the hot weather—if he is worked too hard he will never make the horse that he otherwise would.

Give the three-year-old, or even the four-year-old, if this is his first season of work, a rest during the excessively hot weather and he will put on a big growth before next spring.

Lamb Chills Quickly.

Nothing chills quicker than a new lamb before it is well filled, and when once well filled few small animals are warmer or will stand more.

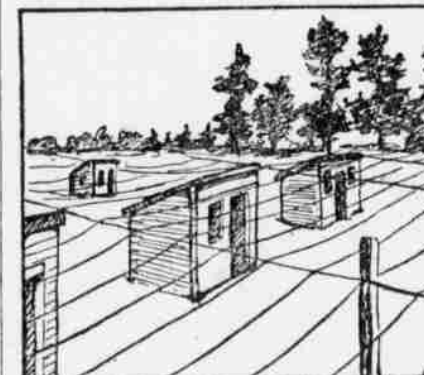


POULTRY

Depredations by Crows and Hawks May Be Prevented by Device Adopted by Maine Station.

One of the chief difficulties that the poultryman has to contend with is the continued loss of chicks, and sometimes even of nearly full-grown birds, as a consequence of the depredations of natural enemies. It is safe to say that the magnitude of the loss from this source is not anything like fully realized by anyone who has not kept an accurate account of all his birds. In the experimental work with poultry at the Maine station, a record of every bird is kept. In this way it has been possible to check up and form an adequate estimate of the losses due to the creatures that prey upon poultry, and, of necessity, a good deal of attention has been devoted to the problem of how these losses may be cut down.

In the experience of the above station the most destructive natural enemy of poultry has been found to be the crow. The depredations of the hawks are more spectacular, perhaps, but in the long run far less destructive. A hawk will only visit a poultry yard occasionally, and especially if he is shot at once or twice will be wary about approaching it again. On the contrary the crow is a steady and persistent robber. He will continue his depredations just as long as it is physically possible for him to do so. For a number of years crows killed and either carried away, or left behind partly eaten, a large number of chicks on the Maine station plant. These losses were not by any means confined to the small chicks, but half-grown birds, each nearly equal in weight to the crow itself, were killed, partly



Poultry Range Covered With Strings Two Feet Apart, as a Protection Against Crows and Hawks.

eaten, left behind on the range. In a single year the crows destroyed something over five hundred chicks.

Devices of all sorts were tried in order to stop these ravages. Various kinds of "scare-crows" were tried but with no effect whatever. Dead crows were hung up on stakes as a warning to their fellows, but instead of operating as warnings, they appeared to serve as "invitations to the dance." Decoying the birds was tried, but with no substantial effect on the steady losses. Poisoning even was resorted to, but all to no avail. The losses continued almost constantly.

Finally a plan was adopted which is perfectly safe and sure in its operation. It consists simply in running strands of binder twine about two feet apart over the whole of the poultry range occupied by the young birds, until they reach such size that they are able to take care of themselves. These strings are run over the tops of the brooder houses, and on supports made by cross strands of either wire or two or three strands of binder twine twisted together. These cross strands are held up where necessary by posts. The whole network of strings thus formed is put at such height that the attendants in working about the yard will not hit the strings when standing upright. The area covered in with strings in this way at the Maine station poultry plant is usually about three acres per year. The expense of covering this area is from \$15 to \$20 for twine. The labor of putting it up is comparatively small. It forms a perfect and complete protection against both crows and hawks.

Keeping Frozen Eggs.

Recent experiments indicate that if eggs are canned in a strictly sanitary manner while fresh, and kept frozen, they will remain in good condition for years. The government has been conducting tests along this line. The eggs are kept in cans instead of their original shells, and are completely frozen instead of being kept at a temperature near the freezing point.

Roosts for the Poultry.

As soon as the early hatched poult (little turkeys) get large enough to roost, let them roost in the trees or on the tops of sheds. Don't put them in buildings where they will not get as good air to breathe.

Remove the Roosters.

Remove male birds from the flock as soon as the breeding season is over. Infertile eggs can stand more hot weather.

Horticultural News

CARE OF BLACK RASPBERRIES

Soil, Plowed Deep, Should Be Rather Fertile and Free From All Grass and Foul Weeds.

The soil for the berries should be fairly fertile, free from sod or roots, such as quack or blue-root grass and all foul weeds. Plow rather deep, and harrow until the earth is perfectly fine and pliable. Too much manure has been known to bring on "the yellows," a disease fatal to berry plants. And let it be said right here, if any yellow plants are ever discovered they should be pulled up at once and promptly burned.

Mark the ground with a corn marker three feet each way. Set every row one way and every other one the other way—making the rows three feet by six feet.

Plants should be set as soon in the spring as they are large enough—say from four to six inches high. Put



An Excellent Cluster.

them in deep; six inches is a good depth. They must have a good, firm rooting to help the heavy plants withstand the hard winds the following years.

Cultivate and hoe often enough to keep the field free from weeds. The more often the soil is stirred the greater will be the yield. In a dry season frequent cultivation draws the moisture to the surface and helps to tide the plants over until the rain comes. Sod will soon "run out" berry bushes. Keep the land level and clean.

If no young plants are wanted for the next year, this finishes the first season. If, however, new sets are desired, either for home use or for sale, this is the way to get them. By the way, plants in the spring sell all the way from \$3 to \$10 a thousand, according to supply and demand.

Early in September bury the ends in the ground about two inches. A trowel makes a good tool for this purpose.

CULTIVATION OF AN ORCHARD

During Dry Seasons Stirring of Soil Enables Roots to Go Deeper After Needed Moisture.

Roots of fruit trees go down deep into the soil, and for this reason many farmers who have orchards think there is no need to cultivate them. This is a mistake, as great benefit can be derived from cultivation. This is especially true during dry seasons, as the stirring of the soil causes the roots to grow deeper into the ground and enables them to get the necessary moisture. Disease spores on fallen leaves and fruit can be destroyed by turning under the sod. Very often insect pests breed under the trees and by stirring up the soil these places are destroyed.

In the spring as soon as the ground is in fit condition is the best time to commence cultivating. This cultivation should continue while the tree is making its season's growth. After the last plowing it is a good plan to sow some crop which can be turned under as a fertilizer the following spring.

If frequent cultivation should tend to make the trees grow too rapidly and not to fruit well, then let the orchard go back into sod for a while.

It is very necessary to cultivate the new orchard—the trees will grow faster, the roots go deeper and many of the insect pests and diseases will be more easily controlled.

SUMMER PRUNING OF TREES

Large Limbs Can Be Removed at This Time Just as Safely as Any Other Season of Year.

If the tree has a dense top, open up the center to permit sunlight and air to enter. Thin out the sides by removing from one-tenth to one-fourth the branches, always cutting back to a limb, and never leaving a long stub to die or throw out a big crop of sprouts. Summer pruning cannot be profitably practised on old, stunted, dying trees. They need rejuvenation, which comes with winter pruning, but may be profitably practised upon old, thrifty, shy-bearing trees.

Large limbs can be removed at this time just as safely as at any other season of the year, only it is not advisable to remove too much of the top at once. Where great quantities of wood must be removed it is better to distribute its removal over a period of from two to three years, rather than to entirely unbalance the tree's growth.

REVELATION WAS TOO MUCH

Picture of "Hollering Jones" at Favorite Diversion Caused Him to Reform.

A well-known illustrator, who makes interesting western pictures, once made the acquaintance of a noisy but good-humored cowboy who rejected in the appellation of "Hollering Jones."

In physical appearance this man was typical of his kind, and the artist made several studies of him, both in repose and in his favorite diversion of "hollering." Some of the studies were sold by the artist to an eastern magazine. They showed Jones in his most violent state.

A year later the artist again visited the region. He was soon approached by Mr. Jones himself, bearing one of the pictures, which he had torn from the magazine in which it was printed. Pointing to it, he asked:

"Is that me?"

"Well," replied the artist, evasively, "I got the general idea from you, of course, but—"

"Oh, I ain't takin' no offense," Jones made haste to say. "It's all right; only if it's me, say so."

"If you put it to me that way," said the artist, "I can only reply that it is a fairly good portrait of you."

"The men here on the ranch agree with you. So I look like that when I holler, do I?"

"I think you do."

"In that case," said Hollering Jones, "all I've got to say is that Hollering Jones has hollered his last holler. Hereafter, when I celebrates, I does so with a tin horn. In my own opinion, no man has a right to look like that—not round white folks, anyhow."—Youth's Companion.

No Airs About Her.

"Airs!" exclaimed the proud mother, and shook her head vigorously. "My Elsie, for all her learning, hasn't any more airs, so to speak, than her poor old dad."

"Then she won't turn up her nose at her old friends?" queried the visitor.

"La, no!"

"How refreshing! Most girls who go through college nowadays will hardly look at you after they're graduated."

"Well, they ain't like my Elsie, that's all I can say," retorted Elsie's ma. "She's become a carnivorous reader, of course, and she frequently importunes music. But stuck up—my Elsie? Not a bit. She's unanimous to everybody, has a most infantile vocabulary, and what's more, never keeps a caller waiting while she dresses up. No, she just runs down, nom de plume, as she is."

Hot in the Superlative. A preacher was describing the Bad Place to a congregation of shellbacks.

"Shipmates," he said, "you've seen the molten iron come running out of the furnace, sizzling and hissing, like some kind of snaky, horrible monster. Well, shipmates—"

The preacher pointed his forefinger at the awed shellbacks.

"Well, shipmates," he said, solemnly, "they use that stuff for ice cream in hell."

At Newport.

"So your daughter is down and out?" "Yes; she took the count."—Chicago Journal.

Depends.

"Is a ton of coal very much, pa?" "It depends on whether you are shoveling it or burning it."

If the play is a frost the audience soon melts away.

Pride makes some people ridiculous and prevents others from becoming so.

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